Alberta traffic collision facts 1989

People and places

What happened on Alberta's roadways in 1989?

Special road user classes
What about drinking and driving
What about seat belts

Alberta
TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES

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What happened on Alberta's roadways in 1989?

During 1989

487 people were killed as a result of traffic collisions.
19,753 people were injured in traffic collisions.
A total of 120,364 collisions occurred.

Alberta traffic collisions 1985-1989

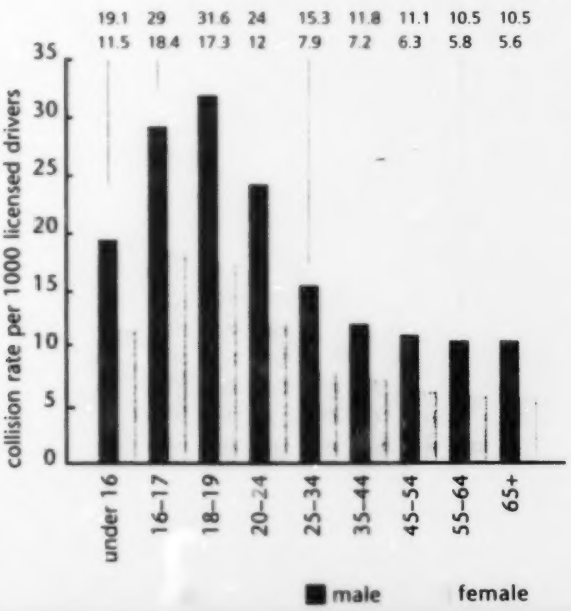
Severity of Collision	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985
Fatal	408	395	425	430	432
Non-Fatal Injury	13 234	12 728	13 088	14 383	12 733
Property Damage Only	106 722	97 141	83 980	82 372	85 224
Total Reportable Collisions	120 364	110 264	97 493	97 185	98 389
Number Killed	487	464	510	523	533
Number Injured	19 753	18 777	19 809	22 148	19 855
Total Casualties	20 240	19 241	20 319	22 671	20 388

Every day in 1989...

At least one life was lost in a traffic collision.
54 people were injured.
Approximately 330 traffic collisions were reported.

Who were the drivers involved?

Age and sex of drivers involved in casualty collisions 1989
per 1000 licensed drivers



Special road user classes

Pedestrians
Based on population, pedestrians between the ages of 5 and 19 were most likely to be involved in a crash. Pedestrian casualty collisions were most likely to occur during the evening rush-hour period.

Motorcycles
The majority of motorcycle collisions involved male drivers under the age of 25. Compared to other drivers, motorcyclists were more likely to drive at an unsafe speed and to have consumed alcohol before the crash. Abnormal road conditions (i.e., wet, loose material, snow/ice) played a role in 15% of motorcycle casualty crashes.

Based on motorcycle registrations, the rate of motorcycle involvement in fatal collisions has decreased to a five year low.

Tractor-trailers
In 1989, there were 58 persons killed and 555 injured in collisions involving tractor-trailers. Compared to drivers of other vehicles, tractor-trailer drivers were more likely to run off the road, but less likely to have consumed alcohol before the crash.

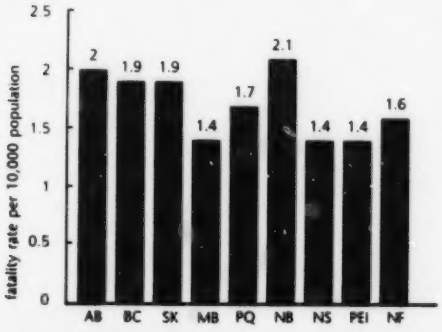
Trains
In 1989, 20 people were killed and 43 people were injured in crashes in which a train was involved.

Bicycles
The majority of bicycle casualty crashes involved young people, 10-19 years of age. Compared to other drivers, bicyclists were more likely to fail to yield the right-of-way or enter a lane when unsafe.

Looking back...
- Fatality rates have increased over the past year.
- Injury rates have increased over the past year.
- Property damage collision rates have increased over the past year.

How does Alberta compare to other provinces?

1989 Provincial traffic fatality rates
per 10,000 population



Ontario figures not available at time of printing.

What happened on Alberta's roadways in 1989?
Special road user classes
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What about seat belts

Alberta

Who were the victims?

Traffic fatalities (%)	Traffic injuries (%)
255 Drivers (52.4)	10,681 Drivers (54.1)
149 Passengers (30.6)	6,552 Passengers (33.2)
59 Pedestrians (12.1)	1,192 Pedestrians (6.0)
10 Motorcyclists (2.1)	636 Motorcyclists (3.2)
5 Bicyclists (1.0)	625 Bicyclists (3.2)
9 Other road user class/ unspecified (1.8)	67 Other road user class/ unspecified (0.3)

Where did the collisions occur?

Approximately four-fifths of all collisions occurred in the urban areas. Fatal collisions were more frequent in rural areas.

Urban	Rural
0.1% fatal collisions	1.2% fatal collisions
9.7% injury collisions	16.5% injury collisions
90.2% property damage only collisions	82.3% property damage only collisions

When did the collisions occur?

July and November recorded the highest number of fatal and injury collisions. However, the highest number of property damage only collisions occurred during November.

Friday was the most collision-prone day of the week. The afternoon rush-hour period accounted for the highest number of crashes.

What about drinking and driving?

Of all drivers involved in fatal collisions, 25.0% had consumed alcohol before the crash. Of all drivers involved in injury collisions, 9.5% had consumed alcohol before the crash. The majority of drinking drivers were males under the age of 30. Alcohol related crashes were most likely to occur between the months of June to October, on the weekends and during the late night/early morning hours.

What about seat belts?

The collision report form collects restraint use information for occupants killed or injured in a collision. The form does not collect restraint use information for individuals involved in a collision who were not killed or injured.

Alberta's mandatory seat belt law was not enforced for approximately eleven months (February - December) of 1989.

The data shows that as the percentage of seat belt use increased, the severity of occupant injury decreased.

Injury Severity	% Using Restraints
Fatal	26.9
Major	29.5
Minor	51.0